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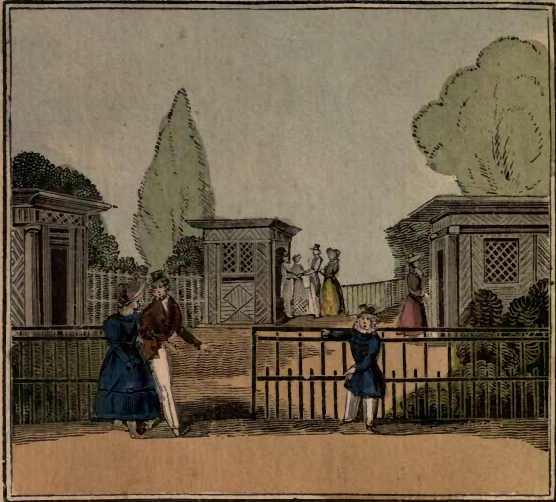
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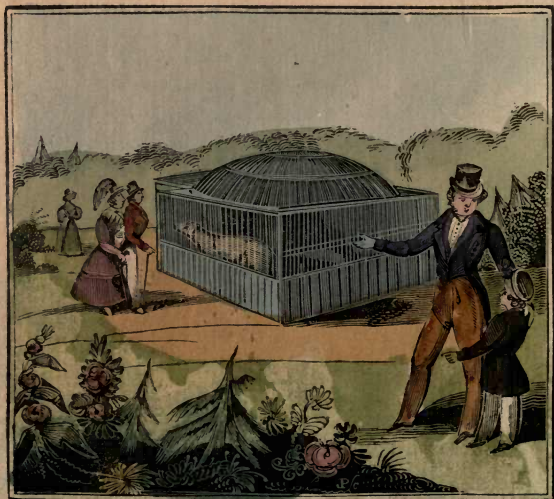
CHILDREN'S BOOK
COLLECTION



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LOS ANGELES



Entrance to the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park.



The great White or Polar Bear.

HENRY AND EMMA'S

VISIT

TO THE

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS,

IN THE REGENT'S PARK.

INTERSPERSED WITH

A FAMILIAR DESCRIPTION OF THE MANNERS AND HABITS OF THE
ANIMALS CONTAINED THEREIN.

INTENDED AS

A PLEASING COMPANION TO JUVENILE VISITORS OF THIS DELIGHTFUL
PLACE OF RECREATION AND FASHIONABLE RESORT.

A NEW EDITION, WITH ADDITIONS TO THE PRESENT SEASON,

BY J. BISHOP.

WITH TWELVE ILLUSTRATIVE COLOURED ENGRAVINGS.

[1830]

LONDON:

DEAN AND MUNDAY, THREADNEEDLE STREET, AND
A. K. NEWMAN & Co. LEADENHALL STREET.

Price One Shilling.

A VISIT

TO

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

ON Henry's return from school, at the Midsummer vacation, he reminded his mamma of a promise made the previous Christmas, to take him and his sister Emma to the Zoological Gardens, in the Regent's Park.

As Henry's parents had received a good report of their son's progress at school, they readily acceded to his request. Accordingly, the next day, Henry and his mamma, accompanied by his papa and sister Emma, set out for the Park. They were much pleased with the fine buildings they passed on their way to the gardens, particularly the Colosseum; which, the young folks remarked, was certainly the largest building, except the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, they had ever seen.

When the delighted party entered the Gardens, they with much pleasure noticed the very tasteful manner in which they were laid out;

the flower-beds contained the choicest and loveliest flowers in full bloom; the walks were nicely gravelled; and the various places in which the animals were kept, were erected in the prettiest style imaginable.

So many pleasing scenes now appeared before the sight of the young party, that they hardly knew which way to direct their attention; till on looking onwards, they observed an enclosure, within which was a paved pit, with a high pole upright in the middle of it: here they saw several brown and black bears; and were for a moment alarmed at seeing two of them climb up the pole, as readily as a cat would run up a tree. Their fears, however, ceased, when they observed that they could not come near them, and then they were much amused at their tricks. Henry's father, with a long stick kept for that purpose, handed the bears an apple and a bun, which they readily took and eat, and looked about for more.

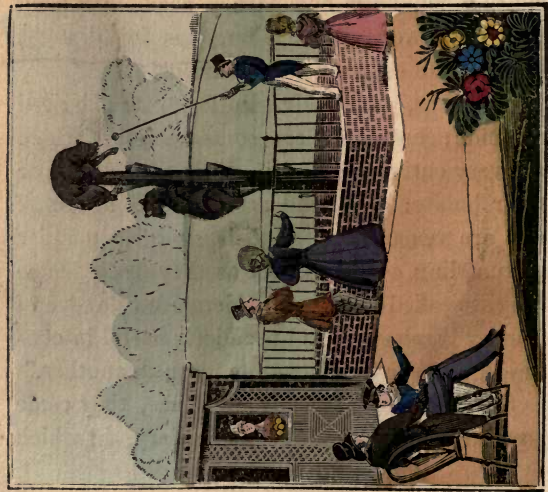
"These Bears," said Mr. Butler, "were brought here from very different parts of the world; the large Brown Bears are found in the coldest and most northern parts of Europe, and inhabit the vast forests and mountains of those dreary regions. The Black Bears are from North America; and the Cinnamon Bears

come from that part of North America called Hudson's Bay. In the few summer months those cold countries enjoy," continued Mr. Butler, "the American Bears get very fat and plump; but no sooner does the long winter set in, than these solitary animals retire, some to a hollow tree, some to a hole in the earth, or a recess in a rock; and there, in a kind of sleep, pass the dreary season with no other food or nourishment than what they derive from their legs being continually in their mouths."

On turning from the Bear Pit, the young party were rather surprised to see a number of Pigeons in a dove-house on the roof of a neighbouring building, and Henry asked his papa why they were placed there, as he thought Pigeons too common to be curious.

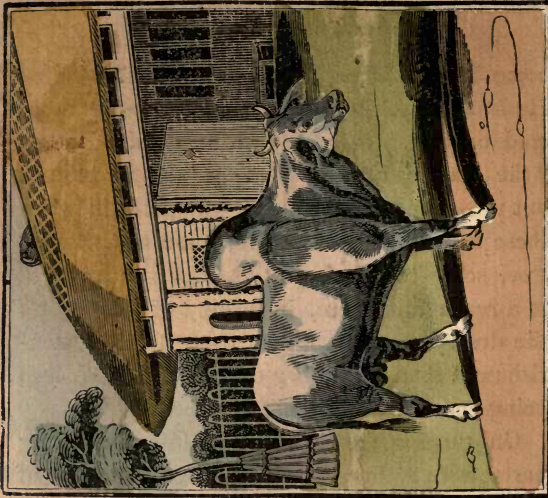
"Pigeons," said Mr. Butler, "are indeed common; but there are some varieties which are very curious, either in their appearance or their habits; this kind are called Bald-heads, and are remarkable for their singular manner of tumbling over and over as they fly; whence they are called Tumblers. Here are also several Carrier Pigeons, a kind peculiarly useful in conveying information from one place to another."

On descending from the Terrace, they came to a large and elegant cage or aviary, in which.



The Bear Pit.

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The Brahmin Bull.

page 25.

were a number of the most beautiful parrots, maccaws, and cockatoos; some were climbing up and down the sides of their cage; while others were gambolling in and out of a double hoop slung from the top, sometimes clinging by their strong claws, or holding on by their crooked but powerful beaks. The variety of lovely colours, and splendid tints of this choice assemblage of beautiful birds, much delighted the young folks, who thought they should never be tired of looking at them.

“Maccaws and Cockatoos,” said Mr. Butler, are natives of the West India Islands, and the warmer parts of America. Some are from the East Indies, and other parts of Asia. But beautiful as they are in appearance, these birds in one respect resemble the hawk tribe, in having, like them, strong, feathered feet, and short, hooked bills. Most of the birds of this tribe are of a very cruel disposition, and subsist principally on other small birds, and minute animals; which they tear to pieces with their hooked bills, while they hold it firmly with their strong claws, under their strong short feathered legs.”

In the Llama house, which they next came to, was one of those singular animals, nearly as large as an ox, and of a milk-white colour. It

was brought from South America, where they are used, fed, and treated like horses.

Near to the Llama house, our party beheld several specimens of the Zebra; an animal about the size of an ass, but with a more slender body, and beautifully striped. The appearance of this animal induced Mr. Butler to remark, that the Zebra, whose extreme wildness was well known, might be compared to a lovely but wayward child, who—

“ Idle and useless still would be,
Though very handsome, as you see.”

By the side of the Zebras, was a newly-discovered animal of the ass kind, called the Dshikketæi; which had the remarkable distinction of wanting the dark stripe across his shoulders.

The party next came to the Lawn, which was neatly enclosed, and in the middle of which was a pond with a very pretty fountain, rising from a kind of rocky grotto, and playing its jet of water in a fine rain-like shower. In this pond were many curious sorts of foreign and British Swans, Geese, Ducks, and other waterfowl, wild and tame. Among these Mr. Butler directed Henry's attention to the Cormorant, an erect-looking bird, something about the size of

a goose, with sooty-coloured plumage: "That bird," said Mr. Butler, "may justly be called the glutton; it lives upon fish, but eats so many at one time as to become almost gorged. Its greediness, however, is made useful to mankind in many countries, particularly in the eastern parts of the world. A cord is tied round its neck, not so tight as to injure the bird; but sufficiently so to prevent its swallowing. With several Cormorants perched on the edges of his boat, the fisherman rows to that part of the stream that he thinks will suit his purpose; here he sets to work: the birds, previously taught, dive down, catch each a fish, and bring it to the master. This is repeated till enough are caught: the strings are then taken off their necks, and they are rewarded with a plentiful share of the fish thus taken.

"The greater part of the birds you see there," said Mr. Butler to his children, "are called water-fowl, from their subsisting principally in the water; to suit them for which mode of life, Nature has provided them with a close, light, feathery covering, and webbed feet. There are some of these birds, however, such as the Cranes, the Storks, and the Herons, which are not able to swim, but only to wade along the edges of rivers and ponds; these ge-

nerally frequent marshy swamps; and live on worms, frogs, small serpents, and other reptiles and insects. These you may readily distinguish, being the tallest among these birds, and not having webbed feet. Another difference between the wading and the swimming birds, is, that most of the swimmers have a broad bill, like that of the goose and the duck; while the waders have generally a long narrow bill, like that of the snipe. In both these instances, as well as in their feet, you see the goodness of Providence, which furnishes every creature with the best means of enjoying the life granted to it by a wise and all-bountiful Creator."

These birds, when not in the lawn, are to be found in the adjoining aviaries.

In the Court-Yard, to which they now came, were long iron cages, in which were several more varieties of Bears; one of which, the Grisly Bear, the party was informed, formerly belonged to King George III. and had been in England upwards of twenty years. It was brought from North America, by the Hudson's Bay Company.

After passing through the court-yard, the party came to an enclosure, in which, in separate divisions, were a Persian Sheep; and a Moufflon, or Corsican Goat, which latter ani-

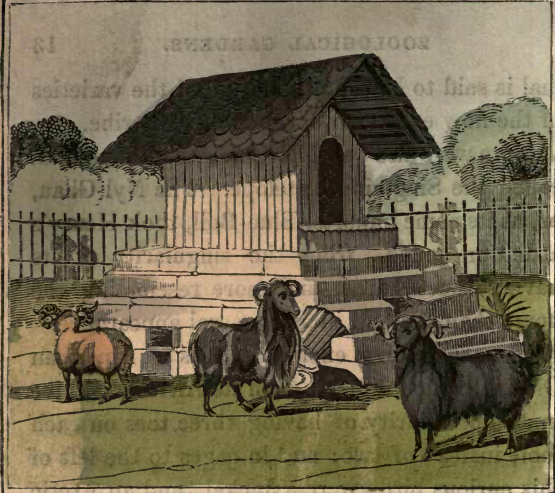
mal is said to be the original of all the varieties of the now extensive Sheep and Goat tribe.

Here were also two Nyl-Ghaus, and an animal called the Sing-sing Antelope. The Nyl-Ghau, or, as its name imports, Blue-Bull, took Henry's attention much, from the singularity of its having short horns, and more resembling the horse than the bull in its general appearance.

In an adjoining enclosure, was an American Ostrich, which differed from its African relative in the peculiarity of having three toes on each foot, instead of two: and in cages to the left of this curious bird, were a Jackal, and an Arctic Fox; the latter animal, our party was informed, changed the colour of its coat every summer and winter; becoming white, long, and downy as the cold approaches, and changing brown and short in the summer.

"The Jackal," remarked Mr. Butler, "is usually called the Lion's Provider, from the fact of its pursuing its prey with a loud cry or noise; which often brings the Lion, or some other famishing beast, to the spoil the poor Jackal has had all the trouble to obtain."

Behind these cages stood a den divided into compartments; in one of which was a Sloth Bear; and in the other, two Spectacled Bears; the appearance of which latter animal much



The Sheep and Goat House.



The Deer House.

pleased Henry and Emma; who smiled to see the curious white marks around their eyes, just like spectacles, and giving these beasts a peculiarly grave aspect.

"The Sloth Bear," said Mr. Butler, in reply to a remark from Henry, "is, as you may see, of the bear class, to which several of its habits show its relationship. But its principal characteristic is that of extreme idleness. When this animal ascends a tree, upon the vegetation of which it subsists, it eats not only the leaves, but the bark also; and then, unable or unwilling to descend, falls to the ground, where it lays apparently immoveable, until hunger again compels it to ascend another tree."

Adjoining to this den, were several temporary enclosures and sheds, the inmates of which are occasionally changed: here our party beheld a pair of singular looking animals, called Gnu Antelopes; a quadruped which is very remarkable, as being something like the Horse in the hinder parts of its figure, and resembling the Deer in its front parts; it has two short horns over its forehead, from which circumstance it is called the Horned Horse.

A deep, loud growl, which now struck upon the ears of our party, caused the young folks to hesitate for a moment in their progress; but

encouraged by an assurance that no fear need be entertained, they went forward, and entering a covered building, beheld the dens in which the Panthers, Leopards, and other ferocious beasts of the forest, were kept.

“Here,” said Mr. Butler, pointing to the stately Panther and noble Leopards, who with ferocious aspect were restlessly walking to and fro, “are those much-dreaded tyrants of the Asian and African forests, whose very appearance strikes terror into all lesser animals. In most respects, these quadrupeds, and the others of the same kind, somewhat resemble the domestic Cat, except that their strength and ferocity are as much superior as their size is greater. Like Puss, they all have strong sharp claws, which they can stretch out at pleasure; and, like her, can readily climb trees. They also all take their prey by surprise, generally by springing upon it from an ambush or secret hiding-place.

“The Leopard and Panther are as ferocious as the Lion and the Tiger, from which they differ but little in size or strength. The Jaguar, the Puma, and the Chittah, or Hunting Leopard, are animals of a similar or smaller kind, and somewhat less ferocity. The Spotted Hyena is easily known by its different appear-

ance; as well as by its skin being marked with spots or strakes; and from its more nearly resembling the Wolf than the Tiger kind."

Henry and Emma were highly pleased with the remarks of their kind papa on the history of the animals they were now surveying.

In a temporary building, opposite these dens, were several varieties of the Deer, Antelope, and Goat tribes. Of these the Antelope particularly took Miss Emma's attention, from its symmetry of shape, and peculiarly light and agile form. Her papa informed her, that this animal is the swiftest in nature, and that its eyes are so remarkably beautiful, that in the eastern parts of the world, it is considered a compliment to compare the eyes of a lady to those of the Gazelle, or Antelope. There was also in this building, a curious shell-covered animal, something like the Tortoise, called the Weasel-headed Armadillo, which on fine days is put into one of the open enclosures; where it amuses itself, or rather occupies its time, with continually running about, as if in search of a hole in which to hide itself from public gaze.

To the east of this building, are several moveable dens, or temporary accommodations for animals, before a more permanent residence is found them. Here were several varieties of

Kangaroos, from New South Wales; and a large bird termed the Cassowary, from New Guinea. The singular formation of the Kangaroo excited several observations from Master Henry; while his sister was more taken with the appearance of the Cassowary,—it was, she observed, the largest bird she had ever seen; and looked much surprised when her papa informed her, that the Ostrich, which she had yet to see, was a much larger bird.

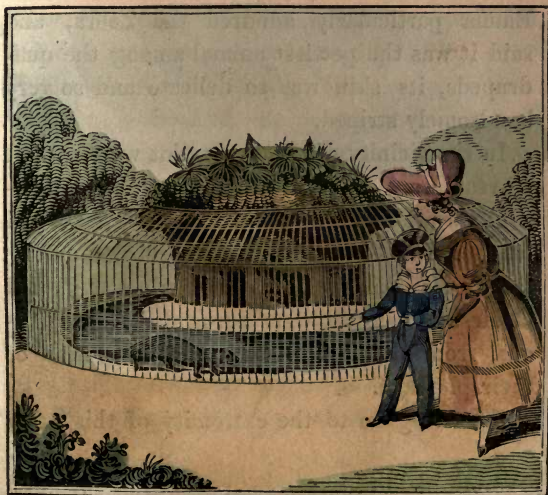
In the course of their rambles among this part of the gardens, one enclosure particularly took the attention of Master Henry; for in it were a number of Guinea Pigs, of all sorts, sizes, and colours: these animals seemed well to deserve the name given to them,—that of the Restless Cavy, being in continual motion; some were no larger than mice and rats, and were chasing each other about in all directions; while others presented a more mature and venerable appearance, having grown nearly to the size of a young rabbit.

The party now left the dens and enclosed buildings, and again had the pleasure of viewing the open gardens; where they admired the many beautiful flowers which at every turn presented their varied and lovely bloom to the eye of the spectators. In this part of the



The Monkey Poles.

page 22.



The Otter Cavern and Pond.

page 23.

gardens they saw the Goat-House, built on the top of a heap of stones, and were much delighted with the curious sorts of Goats and Sheep within the enclosure.

“One of these Goats,” said Mrs. Butler, “is the Cashmere Goat; it was brought from Persia, and from its singularly fine hair are manufactured the beautiful and valuable Cashmere Shawls: when we get home I will show you one that your uncle made me a present of, the last time he came from the East Indies.”

In a square wire enclosure, on the opposite grass plot, were carelessly sporting two or three kinds of Antelopes, Zebras, and other animals, occasionally put in here for exercise. Emma particularly admired the Zebra, and said it was the pettiest animal among the quadrupeds, its skin was so delicate and so very handsomely striped.

In the vicinity of this grass-plot were several moveable aviaries, in which were some beautiful varieties of the Pheasant, Partridge, and other British and foreign game birds; among these, the Gold, Silver, Purple-breasted, and Chinese Pheasants, were particularly conspicuous, from the rare beauty and loveliness of their plumage.

Following on to the extremity of this walk,

our party came to a large pond, in which were three very pretty islands, fitted up for the occasional retreat of the Swans and Geese which were swimming in full majesty about the lake. Here were wild White and Black Swans, and several varieties of Geese, together with many other water-fowl; who seemed to be by no means shy, but were amusing themselves and their beholders with feats of swimming and diving, and other aquatic diversions.

Near to this pond they observed a wire enclosure; in which were an Irish Hare and an English Hare; with several varieties of the common Rabbit.

Master Henry had advanced a few paces onwards, when, all on a sudden, he exclaimed, "Papa, mamma, make haste, here is a great White Bear swimming in the water!" The party soon reached the enclosure which contained the object of Henry's curiosity, and there saw the Polar Bear just stepping out of a large tank. This animal seemed in continual motion, always walking to and fro, or round and round: every now and then putting one of his feet into the tank, to keep himself wet; and was so far sociable, as to pick up and eat pieces of bun or biscuit thrown to him.

"This Bear," said Mr. Butler, "was brought

from that part of the world called the Polar Regions, and on that account is termed the Polar Bear. Amid eternal snow, on large fields of ice, Bears similar to this one are to be seen, wandering about in search of food, which consists of fish, and now and then the dead body of a whale, a sea-horse, or some such dainty."

On leaving the Polar Bear, they next came to what they had been long wishing to see—the Monkey poles; and here Emma and Henry were highly amused by the tricks of these mischievous animals, and the agility they displayed. From the Monkey poles, they proceeded onwards, and on passing a large cage, in which was kept a Harpy Eagle, one of the largest of birds, Mr. Butler reminded Henry of the short feathered feet, and strong, hooked bill, before noticed in the Maccaws, as proving their possessor to be a bird of prey.

Opposite the Eagle's Cage they saw another den and pond, in which were several varieties of the Gull tribe; a race of aquatic birds that, as Mr. Butler informed Henry, lived principally on fish, and frequent the neighbouring seas, in pursuit of their finny prey, particularly in those seasons when the numerous tribes of the herring, the mackerel, and other fish, migrate from one part of the ocean to another, or ap-

proach the shore to spawn. Then indeed, the flocks of gulls and other sea-fowl, which follow those countless shoals, are immense; and being well aware, by natural instinct, of their arrival, they summon each other to the banquet, by their cries; and in so doing, give a timely and useful notice to the fisherman to prepare his nets for the approaching harvest.

Adjoining this place, and opposite the Monkey poles, our party observed another cage and pond, with a cavern-like building in the middle, made for the purpose of exhibiting the manner in which the Otter takes his prey.

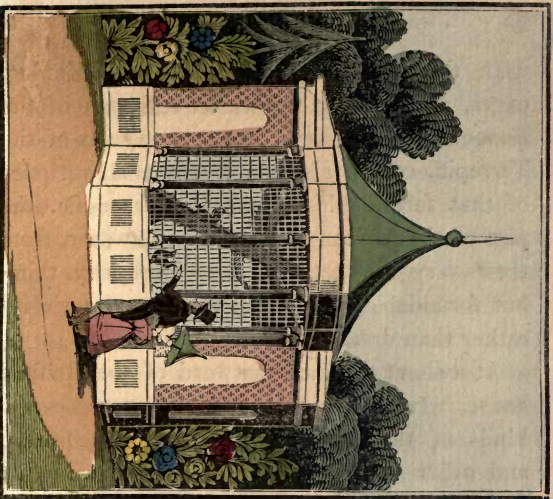
Eastward of the Otter Cage, an enclosure for Land Tortoises presents itself; in which are several curious specimens of this singular animal. Miss Emma looked surprised, when informed that it was the shell of one of those unsightly animals that furnished so many young ladies with their most beautiful combs.

Leaving those enclosures, our party next came to the Monkey-house, and there saw a very large collection of Monkeys, Apes, and Baboons, of several kinds, and from most parts of the world. In the large cages in front of their respective apartments, and to which they all have ready access, these animals are allowed to range at liberty in the day time, during the

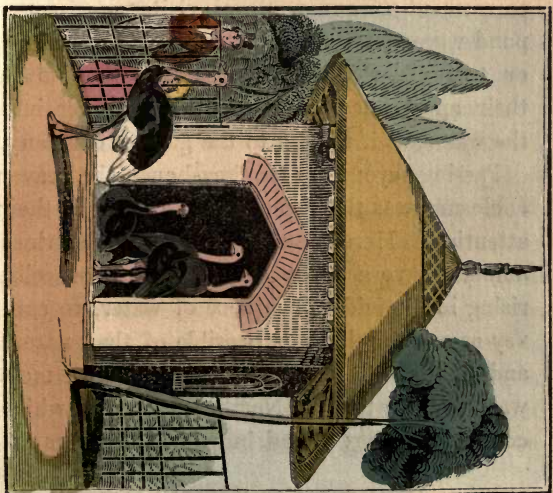
summer, and in warm weather; and here their droll tricks were really amusing. Our young friends were particularly delighted with their antics.

A lady standing rather close to the Monkey Cages, oppressed probably by the heat of the day, loosened the ties of her bonnet, to gain a breeze of refreshing air. A gale of wind at the moment raised her bonnet from her head, and at the same instant, one of the Monkeys, watching the opportunity, snatched away her cap: in an instant he was in the midst of his mischievous bretheren, tearing it to tatters, and chattering most rapidly. Despite of the endeavours made by the attendants to regain it, the cap was torn into atoms, to the no small vexation of the owner.

In the early part of the year 1835, Queen Adelaide honoured these Gardens with a visit; and while her Majesty and her attendants were observing the tricks of these mischievous animals, one of them snatched a purse with several sovereigns in it, from the hand of one of the maids of honour, and swallowed it. The keeper, who was at hand, soon seized the pilferer by the throat; but it was not without much trouble that Pug was made to revoke the golden meal from his pouch.



The Squirrel Cage.



The Ostrich House.

In the house at the back of the Monkey cages, and fronting the winter residence of the Baboons and Monkeys, are several sorts of the Terrapin, or Tortoises; and two small varieties of that formidable animal, the Crocodile, the pest of the African rivers: here, however, from their very minute size, they were any thing but formidable, and were an object of curiosity rather than dread.

At a short distance eastward of the Monkey house, were two ponds, in which were several kinds of the Goose, Duck, and Teal species, and other aquatic and water-fowl, continually diving in and about the water, to the great amusement of our youthful visitors. In the pond were also Golden Carp and Goldfish; one or two of which every now and then made their appearance, and then dived deeper into the water, as if unused to the gaze of company.

Passing beyond the Monkey-house, the Beaver enclosure was the object which next took their attention. Here these singular and industrious animals have a rocky kind of house or cells, rising in the midst of a piece of water, to convey as near an idea as possible of their nature and habits. But what surprised Henry most was, to hear that in North America, in which country they are found in plenty, Beavers as-

sociate together in societies, erect their own habitations, and are their own timber-cutters, carpenters, and bricklayers; their teeth answering the purpose of saws, and their tails as the wheelbarrow and trowel.

Eastward of the Beaver enclosure is a building, in which are several large birds of the hawk species, among which are Eagles, Vultures, Falcons, Goshawks, and Buzzards; all birds of prey, as Henry was now able to point out. "The Falcon," said Mr. Butler, "was, in former times, the exclusive companion of ladies and gentlemen, who whenever they went out on a sporting excursion, were attended by their Falcon and their Greyhound. The Eagles are powerful birds, and often do much mischief; being able to take away young lambs to their nests, which are always built in inaccessible places. The Vultures are, perhaps, the ugliest of the race; but they are of great service in the eastern parts of the world, where they are found. They destroy the Crocodile's eggs in great numbers, which would otherwise come to life and infest the rivers and lakes; and they also devour all kinds of carrion and filth, which else would putrify, and taint the air; so you see even Vultures are useful."

After passing the Falconry, they came to the

Parrot-house, in which they saw a great many beautiful varieties of the Cockatoo, Maccaw, and Parroquet tribes. This house, our party were informed, was the winter house of these lovely birds; many of which, in the warmer months, are in the aviary previously mentioned.

Here also, in boxes, wired at the top, were one or two snakes; and notwithstanding that Emma was assured that they could not hurt her, she could hardly be persuaded to look at them. Reposing upon a soft warm blanket, was a small Boa Constrictor Snake, prettily marked like the Tiger, from which it was called the Tiger Boa.

“In several parts of the world,” said Mr. Butler, “those snakes range at large in the immense forests; and there they are indeed a fearful race: the one you see, belongs to a variety which often grows to thirty and even forty feet long, and are strong and powerful enough to prey upon sheep, deers, and even bullocks. With their ample bodies folded round the branches of a tree, they watch the approach of the herd, or of a straggling member; and no sooner does the unconscious animal come within reach, than it darts upon the unfortunate victim, and winds itself around its body; in vain the captive attempts to escape; it is quickly

subdued, and the insidious reptile having by its great muscular strength crushed every bone, next proceeds to swallow the whole animal; after which, becoming gorged and helpless, it exhibits a deplorable picture of gluttony and inaction. It is while in this state, often found out and killed by the Indians."

Returning from the Beaver enclosure, the attention of our young folks was directed to an Aviary, or large cage of small and middle-sized birds; in which were most of the field and singing birds known in Great Britain.

The Cattle Sheds and Yards now present themselves at this part of the Gardens, and behind them are the Owl Cages. Here are Owls of all sorts, sizes, and colours; looking most mopingly, with their eyes shut, and dozing away their time; some of them as serious and grave as a set of dozing counsellors at the bar, with powdered heads, starched ruffles, and nothing to do.

Among the animals in the Cattle-sheds, is a Zebus, or Barbary Cow, singular for having a large bump on its back, like the Dromedary, and as being a different variety from the animal known in England. There is also a Brahmin Bull, the male of the same species. This fine

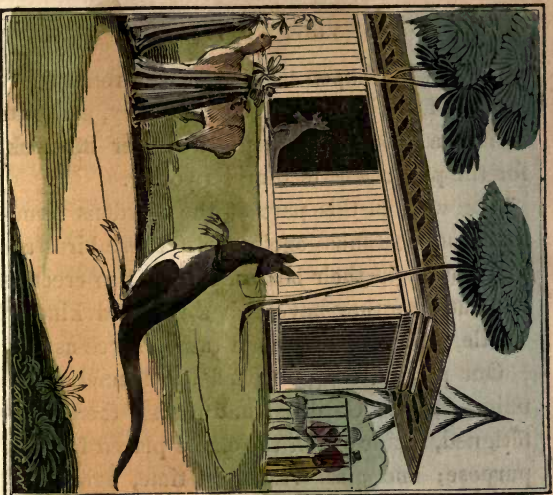
animal was brought from India, where it is an object of religious worship.

Southward of the Cattle-sheds, is the Dove-Cote, in which are several species of Doves and Pigeons, and other birds of a similar kind: and opposite to the Cote is an enclosure where several small Quadrupeds are exhibited.

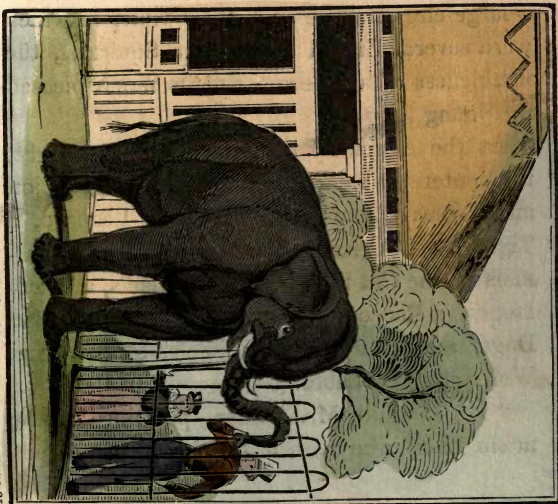
Another Eagle Aviary now presents itself to view, in which are several kinds of these powerful and ferocious birds. Near the Eagles' House is the Guinea-Pig Enclosure; and at a little distance are two Wolves. Henry did not much like the looks of these sheep-eating animals, but was pleased at seeing a quadruped of which he had so often read.

Returning from this place, and passing the Eagle Aviary, our party next came to the pond for Swans, Geese, and other web-footed birds, swimming or walking about in all directions. In proceeding further towards the Lawn, they came to some more large Aviaries, and near to them is an enclosure in which are several Cranes, Storks, Herons, Curassows, and other large and small wading birds. And in another westward of these, is the Pelican enclosure, in which are several White Pelicans.

"The Pelican of the Wilderness," said Mr. Butler, "is, as you may observe, a swimming



The Kangaroo Shed.



The Indian Elephant.

bird, and lives upon fish. It has a remarkably large bill, with which it seizes its prey, and puts it into a capacious receptacle under its neck, for the purpose of feeding its young.

The walk in this part of the Gardens terminates at the Emus' enclosure. These birds are more bulky in their bodies, and not so erect as the Ostrich; they have also a very red kind of wattle, which gives them a rather fierce aspect.

Our party having reached the Tunnel which unites the two Gardens, and feeling themselves fatigued, sat down on the chairs placed for that purpose; and after resting a time, again proceeded forward. Passing through the Tunnel, a large elegant cage met their view, in which were several British and foreign Squirrels, the nimbleness of whose movements much pleased the young folks.

At the extremity of the path to the right, they entered a repository, in which were a Lion and Lioness, a pair of Tigers, a Leopard, a Tiger Cat, a Lynx, and a number of other animals of the Cat tribe: several Hyenas, a Coati-mondi, a Raccoon, Esquimaux and Australian Dogs, and many other animals, of the Dog, Wolf, and Fox tribes.

"Here," said Mr. Butler, pointing to the noble Lion, who with a stately, but ferocious

aspect, was continually walking to and fro, as if impatient of a confinement irksome to his nature: "here are the mighty king of beasts and his royal consort. The Lion, you observe, has a graceful mane, which adorns his stately shoulders, and gives him a very majestic aspect: a dignity in which the Lioness has no share, she being without that graceful ornament. In the forests and immense plains of Asia and Africa, where these ferocious beasts range at pleasure, they are indeed to be feared. Between the Lion and the Tiger, in their native wilds, a terrific combat, originating probably in a dispute for prey, sometimes takes place; and then, indeed, these animals do exert their amazing strength to the utmost.

"The other animals come from all parts of the world; and exhibit to the many visitors, a variety of animated nature, which no other collection in the kingdom can furnish."

The party now left the Repository, and on returning towards the Tunnel, proceeded along the western path, till they came to the Ostrich House.

"Ostriches," said Mr. Butler, "are natives of Arabia, and other eastern countries, where the Camel and Dromedary are found, and are there seen in flocks: they have the singular power of

being able to eat almost any thing, however hard, and from which no other animal could possibly derive nourishment. They are also used as horses, having strength sufficient to bear a man on their back; and thus laden, can travel sixty miles in one day. It is from these birds that we obtain those beautiful ostrich feathers which form so great an addition to to ladies' head-dresses."

Westward of this building is a paddock, where, in fine weather, the Ostriches range about; and adjoining it, is the Kangaroo shed. The young party were delighted at seeing the young Kangaroos sport about their mother, and at the least alarm jump into a kind of pouch nature had furnished her with, for the purpose of protecting them from danger.

In the same enclosure with the Kangaroos, some varieties of the Deer species, as well as some Pea-Fowls, are sometimes exhibited; and in an adjoining enclosure, our party saw several other kinds of Deer, Sheep, Nyl-Ghaus, and Zebras. Westward of these enclosures, are several large Yards and Paddocks, in which are some of the largest species of the deer tribe, and one or two Zebras.

In adjoining departments, they saw that large and noble animal, the Elephant, and a

small one of the same kind, of whom they had heard so much. The young folks were much surprised at the immense size and uncouth appearance of the larger one, and could scarcely be persuaded to approach his enclosure. Encouraged, however, by seeing so many around it, they overcame their timidity, and joined the throng.

“The trunk of the Elephant,” said Mr. Butler, “is, as you see, a most wonderful piece of nature’s mechanism: with this, the Elephant is enabled to do almost all that the human being can do with the hand; he can, by the help of a small piece of gristly flesh at the end of his trunk, which answers for a finger, collect flowers, and tie them up in a nosegay, unlock a door, and even pick up a pin from the ground. In India, Elephants are used on state occasions; a tower is then fixed on their backs, and in this several persons can conveniently sit; they are also used for drawing heavy loads, shipping, &c. in all which purposes their great strength is of particular service.”

The young folks listened with much attention to their papa’s description of the wonderful powers of this noble animal; they had the additional pleasure of witnessing several curious feats which these Elephants performed before

them; and in particular they saw the smaller one rising out of the large bath, at a short distance from its house.

Under the same roof as the Elephants' house, is the building in which the Indian Rhinoceros is kept. This singular animal is in shape something like an overgrown hog, with a short strong horn rising from the top of his snout. Its skin, which is bullet-proof, seems like leather laid on in folds; and its strength is even more formidable than the Elephant.

At a short distance from the Elephants' house, are several curious animals of the Hog kind, called Peccaries and Tapirs; and towards the western extremity of the Gardens, in one of the keepers' houses, is a room in which are kept a number of small animals, as Monkeys, Lemurs, Oppossums, and Rats.

Beyond this place, are aviaries for Pheasants, and other curious and rare Birds.

The party having now concluded their examination of the animals, returned home, highly gratified with their treat: and for some time after, little else was heard of from Henry and Emma, but an account of their visit to the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park.

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